

**Regulatory Classification of  
Wireless Broadband Internet Access  
Presentation to  
Ian Dillner  
Office of Commissioner Deborah Taylor Tate  
Federal Communications Commission**

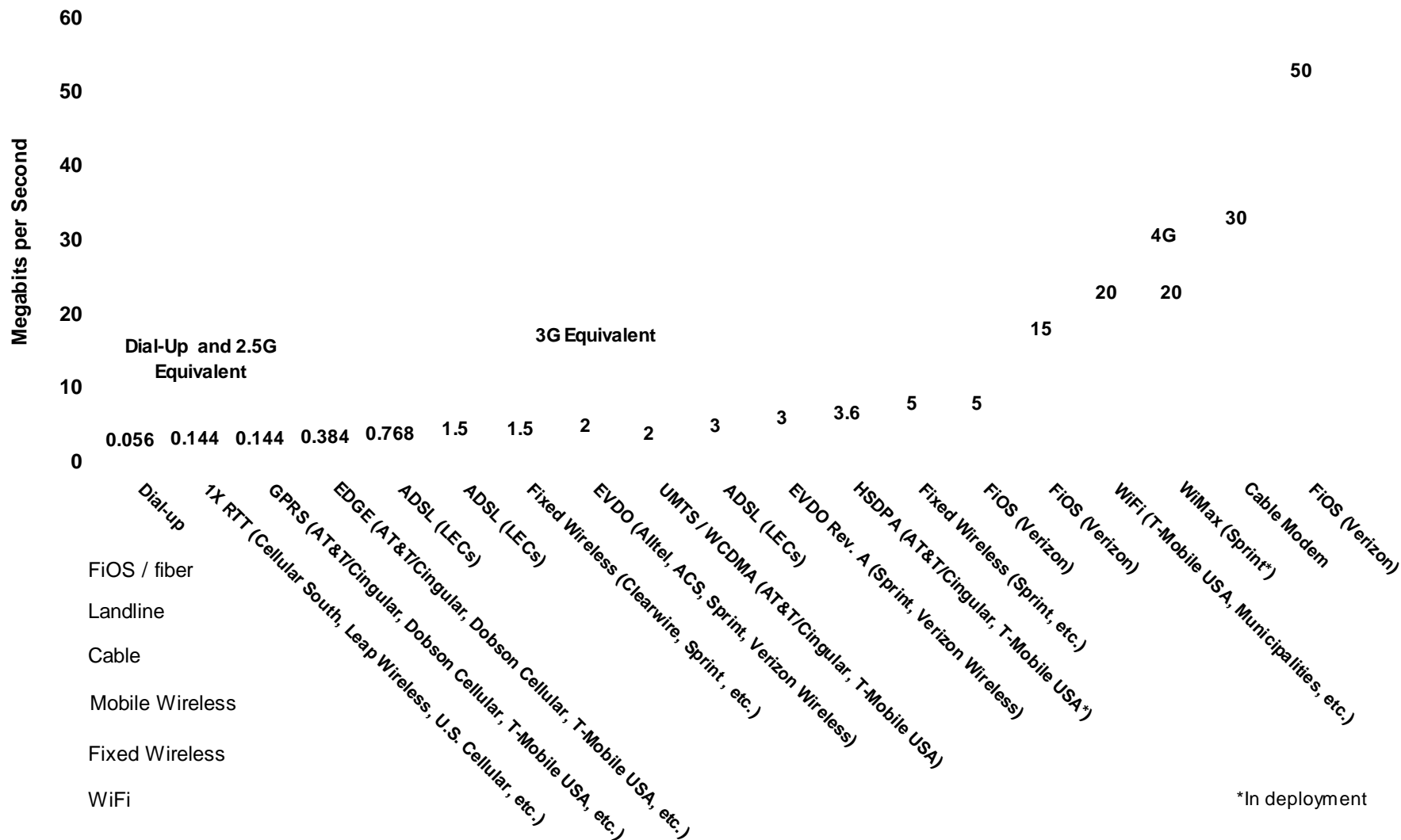
CTIA-The Wireless Association®

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# Overview

- CTIA supports a Declaratory Ruling that wireless broadband Internet access is an interstate information service.
- This classification will be necessary to ensure that the market for wireless broadband Internet access continue to grow.
- That regulatory classification also is necessary to ensure that wireless broadband Internet access can compete with other technology platforms already granted such relief.

# Maximum Theoretical Broadband Download Speeds



# Applications on Mobile Broadband Networks

## Pre-3G Devices

## 3G+ Devices

**Make and Receive Voice Calls**

**Capture and Transmit  
video and still pictures**

**Text-based Messaging**

**Listen to Music Files**

**Download and Play Games**

**Personalize with Content**

**Access Office Systems**

**Browse the Web**

**GPS**

**Watch Television**

**Stream Radio**

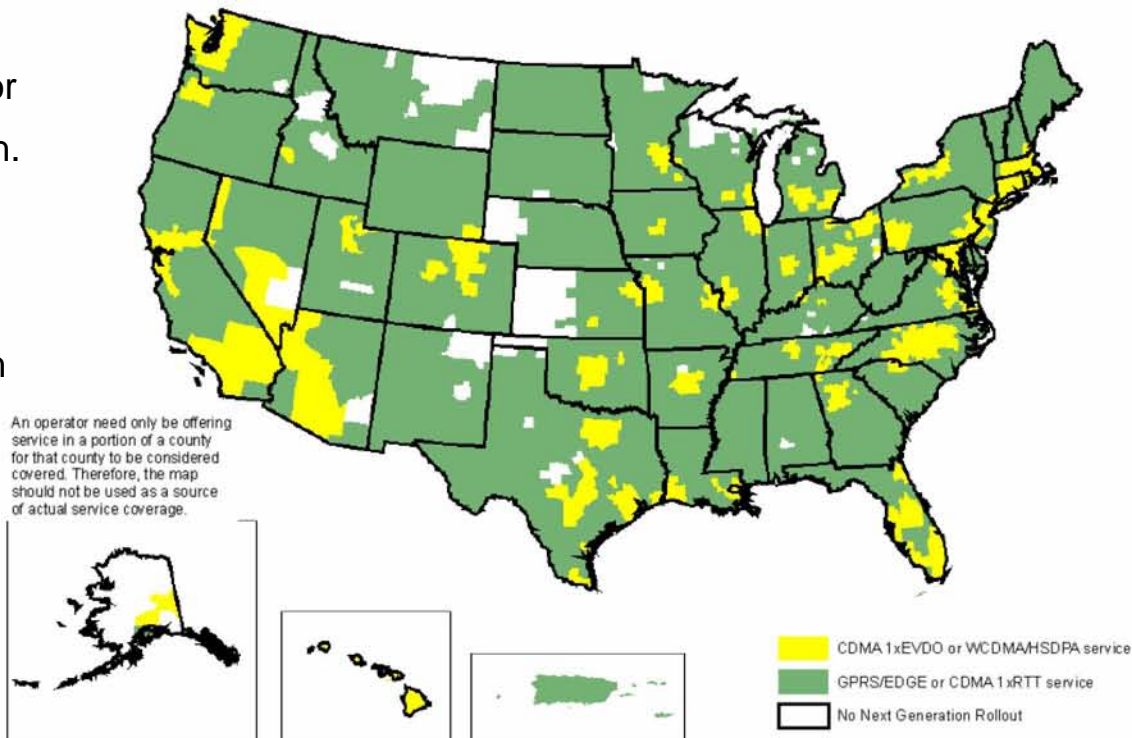
**Advanced  
Gaming**

# High-Speed Wireless Technology Coverage Snapshot

According to the FCC, by the start of 2006:

- CDMA 1xRTT and/or 1xEV-DO had been launched in at least some portion of counties containing 283 million people, or roughly 99 percent of the U.S. population.
- GPRS, EDGE, and/or WCDMA/HSDPA had been launched in at least some portion of counties containing 269 million people, or about 94 percent of the U.S. population.
- Higher speed technologies, EV-DO and WCDMA/HSDPA, were available in counties containing 63 percent and 20 percent of the U.S. population.

## Next Generation Network Rollout by County



# Wireless “3G” Network Deployment

- **Alltel:** Axxess<sup>SM</sup> Broadband service (EVDO) offers speeds of 400-700 kbps (more than 100 cities, 44 million pops).
- **Cingular/AT&T Wireless:** BroadbandConnect (HSDPA) service offers speeds of 400-700 kbps (165 cities, including 73 of the top 100 markets).
- **Sprint Nextel:** EVDO service offers speeds of 400-700 kbps (covers more than 200 million pops now, rising to 280 million by YE2008). EVDO Rev A network now covers more than 95 million people, and expansion of network upgrade continues. Rev A offers upload speeds of 350-500 kbps, and download speeds up to 600 kbps-1.4 Mbps.
- **T-Mobile USA:** Offers mobile Internet access through its GPRS/EDGE network, with a typical EDGE download speed of 100 kbps, and operates a network of more than 8,000 wireless hotspots; T-Mobile's HSDPA network is currently in deployment.
- **Verizon Wireless:** EVDO-based broadband service offers speeds of 400-700 kbps (242 cities, 200 million pops). Verizon is upgrading to EVDO Rev. A.

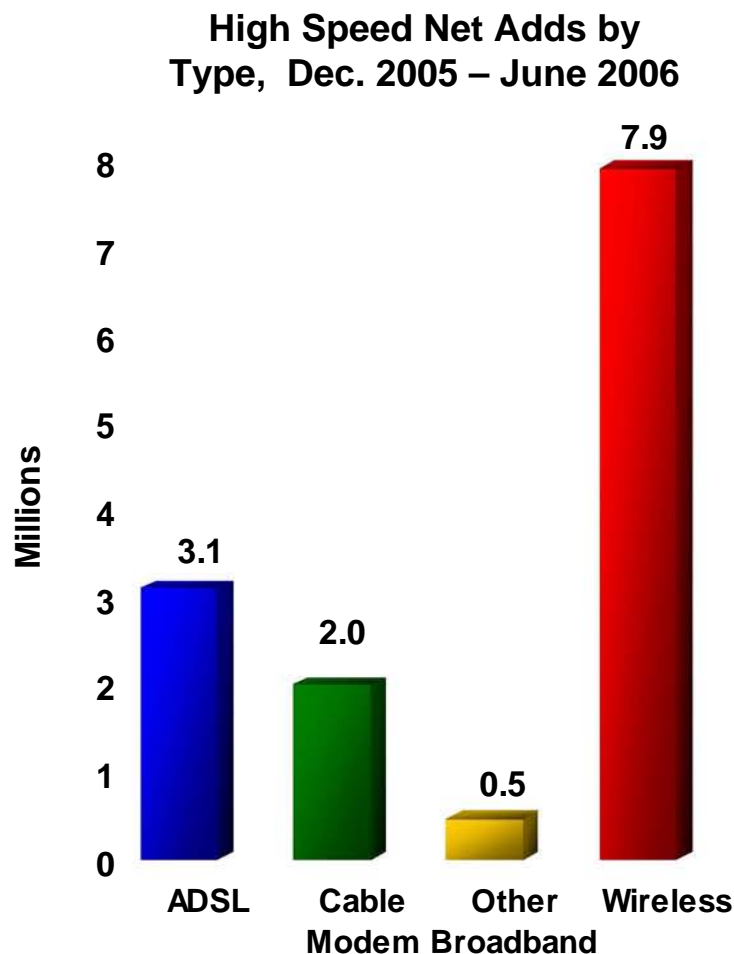
# Wireless licensees are deploying “4G” networks

- **Sprint Nextel** will deploy a 4G broadband network, using mobile WiMAX technology with data rates of 2 to 4 Mbps.

Sprint Nextel intends to launch a mobile WiMAX broadband service capable of serving 100 million people by year-end 2008, using the 2.5 GHz band. Trial markets to be launched later this year include Washington, DC, Baltimore and Chicago.

# High-Speed Line Growth

- In 1H06, total high-speed lines grew 26%, from 51.2 million to 64.6 million lines, and 59% of all adds were mobile wireless subscriptions.
- From June 2005 to June 2006:
  - ADSL's share of total broadband lines fell from 38% to 35%,
  - Cable modem's share fell from 56% to 44%.
  - Mobile wireless' share of total broadband lines rose from 1% to 17% of total broadband lines.
  - The share of "other" forms of broadband (including fixed wireless, satellite, fiber, and broadband over power line) remained at 4% of total broadband lines – although their total line count grew 39%.



Sources: FCC Report on "High-Speed Services for Internet Access," Jan. 2007.



# Interstate Information Service Classification Will Ensure Regulatory Parity

- “Saddling this service with conditions that do not apply to other competing forms of broadband Internet access services would create a regulatory disparity antithetical to our creation of a level playing field for all modes of this service.” *BPL Order* at ¶ 16.
- “As part of this policy, we believe that we should regulate like services in a similar manner so that all potential investors in broadband network platforms, and not just a particular group of investors, are able to make market-based, rather than regulatory-driven, investment and deployment decisions.” *Wireline Broadband Order* at ¶ 45.
- “[T]he framework we adopt in this Order furthers the goal of developing a consistent regulatory framework across platforms by regulating like services in a similar functional manner,” *Wireline Broadband Order* at ¶ 1.
- “We will address, where appropriate, any regulatory treatment and other issues associated with such alternative platforms in separate proceedings in a manner not inconsistent with the analysis and conclusions in this Order.” *Wireline Broadband Order* at FN 30.